



LIMONIUM PLANT NAMED 'DANLISABLU'

Latin name of the genus and species of the claimed plant:

Limonium altaica

Variety denomination

'Danlisablue'

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

The present invention relates to a new and distinct cultivar of *Limonium* plant,
botanically known as *Limonium altaica*, hereinafter referred to by the variety
denomination 'Danlisablue'.

Limonium, of the *Plumbaginaceae* family, is commonly known as
sealavender. *Limonium* is found wild on sea coasts and marshes across the Northern
Hemisphere.

The new cultivar originated from an open pollination of *Limonium* plants
within a breeding program field, discovered in a controlled environment in Moshav
Mishmar Hashiva, Israel. The female parent is proprietary cultivar designated 'PTE'
(unpatented). The male parent is unknown. 'Danlisablue' was discovered and
selected by the inventor, Gabriel Danziger, as a flowering plant within the progeny of
the open pollination program in Moshav Mishmar Hashiva, Israel.

Asexual reproduction of the new cultivar by tissue culture was first performed
in August, 2001, in Moshav Mishmar Hashiva, Israel, and has demonstrated that the
combination of characteristics as herein disclosed for the new cultivar are firmly fixed
and retained through successive generations of asexual reproduction. The new
cultivar reproduces true-to-type.

BRIEF SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

The following traits have been repeatedly observed and are determined to be basic characteristics of 'Danlisablue' which in combination distinguish this *Limonium* as a new and distinct cultivar:

1. violet-blue flower color, RHS 93 B;
2. high stems measuring 70-90 cm;
3. panicle branching habit;
4. flexible stems; and
5. yield of 6 to 10 stems per plant in the first flash.

'Danlisablue' has not been observed under all possible environmental conditions. The phenotype of the new cultivar may vary with variations in environment such as temperature, light intensity, and daylength without any change in the genotype of the plant. The following observations, measurements and values describe the new cultivar as grown in Moshav Mishmar Hashiva, Israel under conditions which closely approximate those generally used in commercial practice.

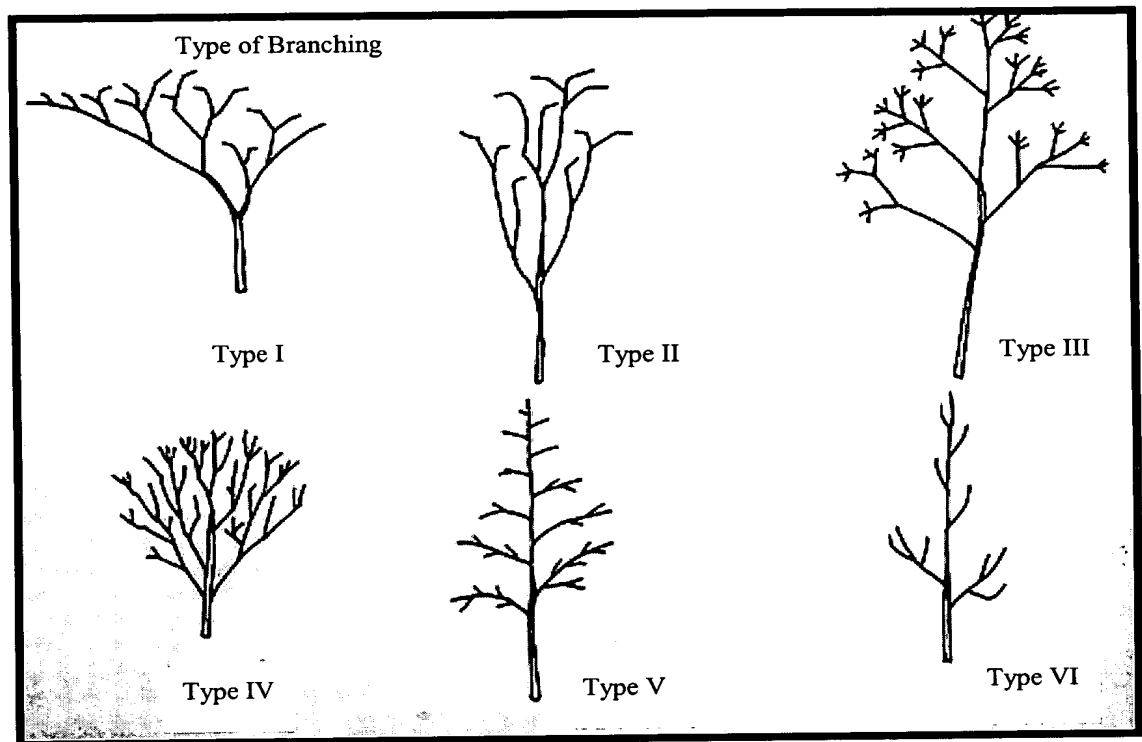
Table 1 provides a comparison between plants of 'Danlisablue' and plants of the parent, 'PTE' (unpatented).

Table 1

Trait	'Danlisablue'	Female Parent 'PTE' (unpatented)
Flower color	Violet-blue group, RHS 93B	Violet-blue group, RHS 93D
Number of Flowers	Approximately 30 flowers in full bloom	Approximately 30 flowers in full bloom
Growth and Branching Habit	Erect growth habit; panicle branching habit	Erect growth habit; panicle branching habit
Yield of Stems	6-10 stems per plant in the first flash	8-12 stems per plant in the first flash

Of the many commercial cultivars known to the inventor, the most similar in comparison to 'Danlisablue' is the cultivar 'Tall Emille' (unpatented). In comparison to 'Tall Emille', 'Danlisablue' has flexible stems whereas 'Tall Emille' has durable stems, and 'Danlisablue' has a narrow shaped inflorescence and panicle branching habit (Type IV, Chart 1) while 'Tall Emille' has an open and wide shaped inflorescence (Type I, Chart 1).

Chart 1



BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

10 The accompanying photographic drawings illustrate the overall appearance of the new *Limonium* showing the colors as true as is reasonably possible with color reproductions of this type. The first photograph shows a top view of a flowering 'Danlisablue' plant. The second photograph shows a side view of a flowering 'Danlisablue' plant.

DETAILED BOTANICAL DESCRIPTION

The following observations, measurements and values describe the new cultivar as grown in Moshav Mishmar Hashiva, Israel, in Mediterranean climate at sea level, under conditions which closely approximate those generally used in commercial practice. Irrigation and fertilization use is common to commercial practice for *Limonium*.

Color references are made to the Royal Horticultural Society Colour Chart (RHS) (published 2001) except where general colors of ordinary significance are used. Color values were taken under daylight conditions at approximately 10:00 AM in Moshav Mishmar Hashiva, Israel. The age of the plant described was 1 year old, in its second flush and the stem which used to determine the RHS colour was at 30-50% open flower stage.

PLANT:

General Appearance and Form:

15	Height:	70-90 cm
	Spread:	40-50 cm
	Growth habit:	Erect
	Growth rate:	7-9 weeks from planting to the first bloom.
	Branching habit and description:	Panicle
20	Flowering stem length:	70-90 cm
	Flowering Response:	Day natural
	Flowering Season:	All year; spring, summer and autumn in open field, during the winter in greenhouse.
	Winter Hardiness/weather tolerance:	Frost tender

Postproduction longevity: 2 weeks

5 Time to initiate roots: Once tissue culture plantlets show small roots,
plantlets are transferred from the tissue culture
medium to a peat soil, then placed in 100% humid
condition for 7-14 days at 18-35°C, then the
plantlets are transferred to regular irrigation and
fertilization.

10 Time to produce a rooted cutting: 30 to 45 days from the arrival from the
tissue culture laboratory until the plants are ready to
plant.

Fragrance: None

STEMS:

15 Appearance: Panicle
Aspect: Stable, Erect
Length: 70-90 cm
Diameter: Typical: 1-2 mm
Observed: 1-2 mm
Texture: Smooth
Color: Green Group, RHS 139 A
20 Internode length: Typical: 7-10 cm
Observed: 7-10 cm

FOLIAGE:

Overall Shape of Leaf: Obovate
Apex: Obtuse

Base: Cuneate

Length: 15-30 cm

Width: 4-6 cm

Margin: Entire

5 Texture: Smooth

Color of Upper Surface:

Mature leaf: Green Group, RHS 136 A

Immature leaf: Green Group, RHS 136 A

Color of Lower Surface:

10 Mature leaf: Green Group, RHS 136 B

Immature leaf: Green Group, RHS 136 B

Venation: None

Petiole:

Length: 3- 12cm

15 Diameter: 3- 4mm

Color: Green Group, RHS 141 C

INFLORESCENCE:

Flower type and habit: Erect, trumpet shaped

Flower size:

20 Diameter: 0.5-0.8 mm

Depth: 0.5 mm

Overall shape: Trumpet shaped.

Calyx:

Shape: Tubular

Length: 0.5 mm

Width: 1 mm

Margin: Entire

Texture: Smooth

5 Color when opening: White, RHS 155A, at the base and violet-blue, RHS
93D, at the top.

Color when fully open: White, RHS 155A, at the base and violet-blue, RHS
93D, at the top.

Corolla:

10 Shape: Round Saucer-shaped

Number of petals: 5 separate petals

Diameter: 5-7 mm

Depth: Typical: 0.7 cm

Observed: 0.7 cm

15 Petals:

Length: 3 mm

Width: 1 mm

Overall shape: Oblong

Apex shape: Truncate

20 Base shape: Cuneate

Margin: Entire

Texture: Smooth

Color when opening:

Upper surface: Violet-Blue Group RHS 93 B

Lower surface: Violet-Blue Group RHS 93 B

Color when fully open:

5 Upper surface: Violet-Blue Group RHS 93 B

Lower surface: Violet-Blue Group RHS 93 C

Sepals:

Quantity: 4

Shape: Oval when stretched out and semi tubular on the plant.

10 Length: 2-4 mm

Width: 1-2 mm

Form: Alternate, very dense

Color: Green and transparent sepals cover the calyx.

Upper surface: Green, RHS 141 C

15 Lower surface: Green, RHS 141 C

Bud:

Color: Violet-Blue, RHS 93 B

Shape: Oblong

Length: 2-3 mm

20 Diameter: 1 mm

Peduncle description: Borne from 2 sepals, 4 mm long, smooth texture; green color, RHS 141 C

REPRODUCTIVE ORGANS:

- Stamen: 5 in number; white in color
- Anthers: 5 in number, 0.5 – 1 mm in length; brown-black in color
- Pistil: 5 in number
- 5 Stigma: Filament; white in color
- Style: Filament; white in color
- Ovary: Green in color
- Seeds:
- Width: 1 mm
- 10 Length: 2 mm
- Shape: Oval
- Color: Brown
- Fruit: White-brown in color
- Pollen: Yellow in color

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DISEASE/PEST RESISTANCE/SUSCEPTIBILITY: Unknown

- WEATHER TOLERANCE: Plants of 'Danlisablue' have exhibited good tolerance to draught, rain and wind, however flowering may cease during hot periods
- 20 (temperatures above 30°C).